

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

S E C R E T USNATO 0788

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: POLITICAL VIEWS ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF NUNN AMENDMENT

REF: USNATO 0741

MISSION PROVIDES BELOW TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES OF ACTING PERMREP
BOSS (FRG) AT FEBRUARY 11, 1975 NPG PERMREP MEETING TO DISCUSS
SUBJECT.

BEGIN TEXT:

GENERAL REMARKS

1. MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THESE POSITIVE
CONSULTATIONS AND DOES APPRECIATE THAT THE UNITED STATES
INTEND TO CONDUCT THEM IN A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTENSE WAY.
WE HAVE STUDIED THE EXCELLENT MILITARY ASSESSMENTS OF THE
NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE NUNN-AMENDMENT AS CAREFULLY AS IT
WAS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE RATHER SHORT TIME AVAILABLE.

MY GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THE CONCLUSIONS OF SACEUR'S REPORT
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AND IN PARTICULAR HIS SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED FURTHER
IN MAKING A THOROUGH REAPPRAISAL OF NATO'S THEATRE NUCLEAR
POSTURE AS ASKED FOR BY SENATOR NUNN IN ADDITION TO THE
ALLIANCE'S ONGOING WORK IN THIS FIELD.

2. WE ALSO FULLY CONCUR WITH THE MILITARY COMMITTEE'S ENDORSEMENT OF SACEUR'S REPORT WHICH UNDERLINES AND CONFIRMS SACEUR'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

IN WORKING OUT A POLITICAL ASSESSMENT AND DEALING WITH THE PO/75/5 WE SHOULD ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THAT THESE TWO PAPERS (SHAPE/ATOMAL 001/75, CM-CM-8-75), THEIR FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS ARE THE BASIS FOR OUR CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. I SHOULD NOW LIKE TO COME BACK TO SACEUR'S REPORT AND INVITE YOUR ATTENTION TO A FEW MAJOR FINDINGS WHICH WE FULLY SUPPORT.

FIRSTLY, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE SOLIDARITY OF THE ALLIANCE AND THE CREDIBILITY OF THE DETERRENT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID ANY UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS IN VITAL FIELDS WITHOUT PROVED AND CLEAR OPERATIONAL JUSTIFICATIONS. SECONDLY, ALL POSSIBLE REDUCTIONS SHOULD NECESSARILY BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

THIRDLY, SACEUR'S STUDY BASED ON NATO'S AGREED STRATEGY AS LAID DOWN IN MC 14/3 AND OTHER BASIC DOCUMENTS (E.G. PROVISIONAL POLITICAL GUIDELINES, AND THE STRIKE ROLE PAPER DPC/DC/70/59 (REV.)) CONCLUDES THAT ONLY A THOROUGH AND DETAILED ANALYSIS OF ALL RELEVANT ASPECTS COULD ULTIMATELY PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR FURTHER CHANGES.

4. SUCH AN ASSESSMENT SHOULD CAREFULLY WEIGH BOTH THE ALLIANCE'S AND THE PARTICULAR INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. I MAY REMIND YOU THAT SECRETARY OF DEFENCE SCHLESINGER HIMSELF REPEATEDLY STATED THAT THE ROLE OF THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES AS PART OF THE OVERALL DETERRENT IS VITAL AND INDISPENSABLE.

WE HOPE THAT THE ALLIANCE'S CONTRIBUTION IN CONNECTION
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WITH THE NUNN AMENDMENT WILL, TOGETHER WITH THE US EFFORTS, FINALLY HELP TO STRENGTHEN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NUCLEAR ELEMENT OF OUR ALLIANCE.

PROCEDURAL ASPECTS

5. AS FAR AS PROCEDURE IS CONCERNED WE FEEL THAT NATO SHOULD PROCEED AS REQUESTED BY MINISTERS AT THEIR DECEMBER NPG MEETING AND AS LAID DOWN IN THE AGREED MINUTES OF THAT MEETING, NAMELY

- "THAT PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP BE REQUESTED TO MONITOR THE OVERALL PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION REQUIRED FOR A FULL

EVALUATION AND PREPARE A REPORT ON THE POLITICAL
IMPLICATIONS."

WE THINK THAT THIS REPORT SHOULD THEN BE FORWARDED TO
SECRETARY OF DEFENCE SCHLESINGER BY YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN,
AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

PO/75/5 COULD SERVE AS A USEFUL BASIS FOR FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, RECOMMEND SOME

MODIFICATIONS AND STREAMLINING OF THAT PAPER BEARING
IN MIND THE MAIN ISSUES.

THE NPG STAFF GROUP COULD BE ASKED TO DRAFT THE REQUIRED
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT.

END TEXT.

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To: STATE
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